Annual Water Quality Report

Water testing performed in 2006

Proudly Presented By:

Fort Hood

DPW
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Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre su agua potable. Tradúzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Water Conservation Tips

Water conservation measures are an important first step in protecting our water supply. Such measures not only save the supply of our source water but can also save you and Fort Hood money by reducing our water bill. Here are a few suggestions:

Conservation measures you can use inside your home include:

- Repair or report leaking faucets, pipes, toilets, etc.
- Wash only full loads in your washing machine or dishwasher.
- Don't let the water run while brushing your teeth.
- Keep a bottle of drinking water in the refrigerator. This beats the wasteful habit of running tap water to cool it for drinking.
- If you wash dishes by hand don't leave the water running for rinsing. If you have two sinks, fill one with rinse water. If you only have one sink, use a spray device or short blasts instead of letting the water run.
- Put food scraps in your trash pail instead of using the garbage disposal.

You can conserve outdoors as well:

- Water the lawn and garden in the early morning or late evening, not during the hottest part of the day.
- Use mulch around plants and shrubs.
- Repair or report leaks from faucets and hoses.
- Don't water excessively, to the point where water runs off your lawn.
- Raise your lawn mower blade to 2-3 inches. Longer grass means less evaporation of water.

Information on other ways that you can help conserve water can be found at www.epa.gov/safewater/publicoutreach/index.html.

Our Drinking Water Meets or Exceeds All Federal (U.S. EPA) Drinking Water Requirements

This report is a summary of the quality of the water we provide to our customers. The analysis was made by using the data from the most recent U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) required tests and is presented in the attached pages. We hope this information helps you become more knowledgeable about what's in your drinking water.

Margaret Brewster of the Public Affairs Office, (254) 287-4003, is the the Fort Hood point of contact for questions regarding this report or to request to schedule a public meeting. This report is also available on the DPW Web site at:

http://www.dpw.hood.army.mil/Environmental/Files/2006_Annual_Consumer_Confidence_Report.pdf.

Special Notice for the ELDERLY, INFANTS, CANCER PATIENTS, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune problems:

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. The U.S. EPA/Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

En Español

Este informe incluye información importante sobre el agua potable. Si tenga preguntas o comentarios sobre este informe en español, favor de llamar al telefono (254) 287-8713 para hablar con una persona que hable español.

Where Does My Water Come From?

Our drinking water is obtained from a surface water source, Belton Lake. Fort Hood purchases treated drinking water for South and West Fort Hood and BLORA from Bell County Water Control and Improvement District No. 1 (BCWCID1).

A Source Water Susceptibility Assessment for Belton Lake is currently being updated by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and will be provided to us this year. The report will describe the susceptibility and types of constituents that may come into contact with your drinking water source based on human activities and natural conditions. The information contained in the assessment will allow us and/or BCWCID1 to focus our source water protection strategies. For more information on source water assessments and our protection efforts, please contact us.

Water Sources

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it can acquire naturally occurring minerals, in some cases radioactive material, and substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

Microbial Contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, or wildlife;

Inorganic Contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or may result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming;

Pesticides and Herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses;

Organic Chemical Contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and which may also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems;

Radioactive Contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or may be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

All Drinking Water May Contain Contaminants

When drinking water meets federal standards, there may not be any health-based benefits to purchasing bottled water or point-of-use devices. Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the U.S. EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

About the Data Tables

The pages that follow list all of the federally regulated or monitored contaminants which have been found in your drinking water. The U.S. EPA requires water systems to test for up to 97 contaminants.

Secondary contaminants may be found in drinking water that may cause taste, color, or odor problems. These types of problems are not necessarily causes for concern. For more information on taste, odor, or the color of drinking water, please contact the Public Affairs Office.

The state allows us to monitor for certain substances less than once per year because the concentrations of these substances do not change frequently. In these cases, the most recent sample data are included, along with the year in which the sample was taken.

REGULATED SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	MCL [MRDL]	MCLG [MRDLG]	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Arsenic (ppb)	2004	10	0.0	1	0.0–2	No	Erosion of natural deposits; runoff from orchards; runoff from glass and electronics production wastes
Atrazine (ppb)	2003	3	3	0.26	0.26–0.26	No	Runoff from herbicide used on row crops
Barium (ppm)	2004	2	2	0.05	0.05–0.05	No	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Beta/Photon Emitters[1] (pCi/L)	2006	50	0	3.47	2.8–4.3	No	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Chloramines (ppm)	2006	[4]	[4]	2.37	0.0–7.1	No	Disinfectant used to control microbes
Fluoride (ppm)	2006	4	4	0.24	0.21–0.3	No	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Total Haloacetic Acids [HAA] (ppb)	2006	60	NA	5	0–11.6	No	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Nitrate (ppm)	2006	10	10	0.12	0.02–0.33	No	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits
TTHMs [Total Trihalomethanes] (ppb)	2006	80	NA	22.4	5.2–43.5	No	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Coliform Bacteria[2] (% positive samples)	2006	Presence in 5% or more of monthly samples	0	3%	0–3%	No	Naturally present in the environment
Turbidity[3] (NTU)	2006	0.3	NA	0.3	0.05–0.3	No	Soil runoff

Tap water samples were collected from 30 sample sites throughout the community

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	ACTION LEVEL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED (90TH%TILE)	SITES ABOVE ACTION LEVEL	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Copper (ppm)	2004	1.3	NA	0.2	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb)	2004	15	NA	1.8	0	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits

SECONDARY SUBSTANCES

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	SMCL	MCLG	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	VIOLATION	TYPICAL SOURCE
Aluminum (ppb)	2004	50000	NA	77	6–131	No	Abundant naturally occurring element
Chloride (ppm)	2006	300	NA	37	35–39	No	Abundant naturally occurring element; used in water purification; byproduct of oil field activity
Copper (ppm)	2004	1.0	NA	0.001	0–0.001	No	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Sulfate (ppm)	2006	300	NA	29	28–30	No	Runoff/leaching from natural deposits; Industrial wastes
Total Dissolved Solids [TDS] (ppm)	2006	1000	NA	249	234–272	No	Total dissolved mineral constituents in water
pH (Units)	2006	NA	NA	7	6.8–7.2	No	Naturally occurring

UNREGULATED SUBSTANCES [4]

SUBSTANCE (UNIT OF MEASURE)	YEAR SAMPLED	AMOUNT DETECTED	RANGE LOW-HIGH	TYPICAL SOURCE
Bicarbonate (ppm)	2006	162	143–201	Corrosion of carbonate rocks such as limestone.
Bromodichloromethane (ppb)	2006	4.6	1.11–7.4	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Bromoform (ppb)	2006	1.05	0.0–1.9	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Calcium (ppm)	2004	41.7	39.7–44.4	Abundant naturally occurring element.
Chloroform (ppb)	2006	2.75	1.7–3.9	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Dibromochloromethane (ppb)	2006	4.63	0.0–8.1	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
Hardness as Ca/Mg (ppm)	2004	136	134–139	Naturally occurring calcium and magnesium.
Magnesium (ppm)	2004	9.0	8.5–9.7	Abundant naturally occurring element.
Sodium (ppm)	2004	15	14–16	Erosion of natural deposits; byproduct of oil field activity.
Total Alkalinity as CaCO3 (ppm)	2006	133	117–165	Naturally occurring soluable mineral salts.

[1] The MCL for beta particles is 4 mrem/year. U.S. EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

[2] Total coliform bacteria are used as indicators of microbial contamination of drinking water because testing for them is easy. While not disease-causing organisms themselves, they are often found in association with other microbes that are capable of causing disease. Coliform bacteria are more hardy than many disease-causing organisms; therefore, their absence from water is a good indication that the water is microbiologically safe for human consumption.

[3] Turbidity has no health effects. However, turbidity can interfere with disinfection and provide a medium for microbial growth. Turbidity may indicate the presence of disease-causing organisms. These organisms include bacteria, viruses, and parasites that can cause symptoms such as nausea, cramps, diarrhea and associated headaches. The lowest monthly percent of samples meeting turbidity limits was 100%.

[4] Unregulated contaminants are those for which the U.S. EPA has not established drinking water standards. The purpose of unregulated contaminant monitoring is to assist the U.S. EPA in determining their occurrence in drinking water and whether or not future regulation is warranted.Bromoform, chloroform, dichlorobromomethane, and dibromochloromethane are disinfection by-products. There is no maximum contaminant level for these chemicals at the entry point to distribution.

Table Definitions

AL (Action Level): The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

MCL (Maximum Contaminant Level): The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

MCLG (Maximum Contaminant Level Goal): The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level): The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

MRDLG (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal): The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

NA: Not applicable.

NTU (Nephelometric Turbidity Units): Measurement of the clarity, or turbidity, of water. Turbidity in excess of 5 NTU is just noticeable to the average person.

pCi/L (picocuries per liter): A measure of radioactivity.

ppb (parts per billion): One part substance per billion parts water (or micrograms per liter).

ppm (parts per million): One part substance per million parts water (or milligrams per liter).

TT (Treatment Technique): A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.